Scheme of Intensive Cotton Development Programme during 1991–92. The scheme provides for operational charges @ Rs. 125/- per ha.

(c) The programme of aerial spraying which was in operation during the Seventh Plan, has been revived to protect the cotton crop from severe attack of pets which causes heavy loss to the crop.

Sick Wells in Bombay High

4701. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick wells in Bombay High up to October, 1991 and the number of wells closed so far;

(b) the quantum of production of oil reduced due to such closure;

(c) the proposal of the Government to tide over the present situation and augment the oil production; and

(d) whether any foreign collaboration has been made in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) The number of sick/idle and non–flowing oil wells/strings in the Bombay High field as on 1.11.1991 was 79.

(b) 0.59 MMTPA

(c) Shortfall in domestic production is made up through imports. Five oil field development projects have also been approved to augment production.

(d) No, Sir.

Non– Aligned Movement

4702. SHRI SUDHIR GIRI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to strengthen the Non–Aligned Movement (NAM);

(b) whether there was any proposal to merge NAM and G–7 Countries; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) India played a catalytic role in the deliberations of the recent Ministerial level meeting of Nonaligned countries in Accra from 2–7 September. India has also actively sough to strengthen the role of the Nonaligned Movement in international affairs by activating the Non-aligned Coordinating Bureau and the Non-aligned Caucus in the Security Council.

(b) and (c). A proposal to merge the Nonaligned Movement and the G–77 was discussed at the Ministerial meeting in Accra. However, the Committee on Methodology set up by the Ministerial Conference held in Nicosia is 1988 was nandated to report on the creation of a Joint Coordinating Committee.

[*Translation*]

Coal mining contracts to Foreign Companies

4703. SHRI RAM TAHAL CHAUDHARY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) the number of contracts given to foreign companies in coal sector;